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After presenting their case, the authors discuss the kind of lesion that should correspond with such a set of symptoms. They assume for the discussion generally accepted tentative schemata, and, on the authority of Wilbrand and Wernicke, the principle that optical images, including those of words and letters, are preserved in duplicate in the right and left optical centres. It is interesting, without going further into the discussion, to remark that the preservation of the names of objects, while those of printed letters and words are lost, depends on the association of other sensations with that of sight in the case of the objects. The sight of the object calls up the associated sensations—for example, touch sensations among the rest, or they are directly excited by handling the object. The connection between the touch centre and that of speech is uninjured, and makes possible the giving of the name. The image of the printed letter or word, on the contrary, has no other associations (or almost none), and so when the direct connection between the optical and speech centres is broken there is no byway by which the latter can be reached. Written letters and words have an advantage in associated motor sensations, and by means of them, as in the case of this patient, the spoken equivalent may be reached.

Acrophobia. Dr. ANDREA VERGA. Translated in Am. Jour. Insanity, October, 1888.

In this paper, read somewhat over a year ago at the congress of alienists at Pavia, the author makes confession of his own extreme dread of high places. Though fearless of the contagion of cholera, he has palpitations on mounting a step-ladder, finds it unpleasant to ride on the top of a coach or to look out of even a first-story window, and has never used an elevator. Merely thinking of those that have cast themselves from high places sets him tingling in the calves of his legs, his heels and the soles of his feet, or in his neck. He even experiences physical discomfort at the thought of the earth spinning through space and the imaginary possibility of the centrifugal overbalancing the centripetal force. He finds this fear growing upon him with years, as sight and hearing and the courage that they give begin to fail; even the small feats of walking in high places that were once possible to him he can no longer perform. The translator of the article also confesses the same fear. In his case the special dread that he feels on seeing a child near an open window has been given a peculiar force by the fatal fall from a window of the child of a friend. There are no doubt many other cases where the feeling has been caused or intensified by such shocking experiences.

A Rare Form of Mental Disease (Grübelsucht). CONOLLY NORMAN. Journal of Mental Science, October, 1888.

As the name of this disease signifies, the sufferer from it torments himself with endless questionings and needless investigations. The case here related was that of a married woman, thirty-two years old, who had been prepared for disease by excessive child-bearing and nursing in unfavorable circumstances. The trouble began in feelings of suffocation on waking, and the fear that if she did not rise at once the walls would fall in, she should go crazy, or something else dreadful would happen. After a time she began to feel compelled to examine any bit of straw or paper or glass that she